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DATE: November 21, 2003 **OUR REF:** KNI-178-A **USSN** 09/915,643

TO (COMPANY) : US Patent & Trademark Office, Art Unit 2878

ATTN: Examiner Patrick J. Lee

FROM : Joseph P. Carrier

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KNI-178-A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ikeda
Serial No.: 09/915,643
Filed: 26 July 2001
Group Art Unit: 2878
Examiner: Lee, Patrick J.
Title: IMAGE READING APPARATUS

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LETTER OF RECORD

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Examiner's telephonic inquiries of 18 November 2003 regarding two aspects of the present invention, applicant submits the following reply.

- 1) The dimension "C" used in the application, e.g., in the Brief Description of Fig. 5 and in the third paragraph under the "Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiments", refers to chamfering in which a flat plane is obtained from a cross-sectional view. While not used in the application, a dimension "R" would similarly refer to chamfering in which a rounded plane is obtained from a cross-sectional view. In other words, "C" represents "Chamfer" and "R" represents "Round". Thus, for example, the phrase "chamfering of 0.5 (0.6) C" as used in

the present specification, might more appropriately be worded/translated as – C chamfering of 0.5 (0.6)–.

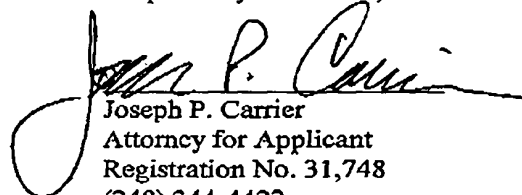
- 2) Regarding the advantage(s) of chamfering the end of the major axis of the bar-shaped light guide at a non-perpendicular angle to the plane parallel to the major axis of the 1/4

oval shape, applicant submits the following. In the case of chamfering at a perpendicular angle, most of the light which is reflected on the chamfered plane goes in the direction parallel to the major axis of the 1/4 oval shape without being reflected on the curved plane. On the other hand, in the case of chamfering at a non-perpendicular angle, most of the light which is reflected on the chamfered plane is directed to the curved plane, and reflected thereon. As a result, the light emitted from the emission plane goes to the desired area of the reading surface.

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

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21 November 2003

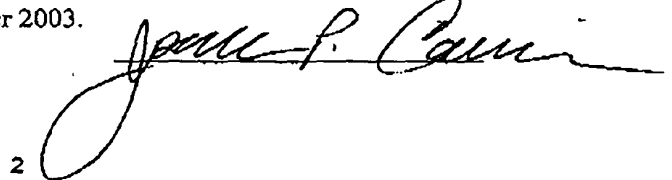
Respectfully submitted,


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